c.) Amendments to the Claims

Status Identifiers of the Claims

1. (Currently amended)
2. (Original)
3. (Original)
4. (Original)
5. (Currently amended)
6. (Currently amended)
7. (Currently amended)
8. (Currently amended)
9. (Original)
10. (Currently amended)
11. (Currently amended)
12. (Original)
13. (Original)
14. (Original)
15. (Currently amended)
16. (Currently amended)
17. (Currently amended)
18. (Currently amended)
19. (Currently amended)
20. (Currently amended)

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended): A protein standard comprising a collection of polypeptides wherein;

(a) the protein standard contains at least three polypeptides of different known size and of different ~~mass~~ known amount;

(b) the size of all of the polypeptides in kilo Dalton covers a range ~~of at least~~ that is separable by a given polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis; and

(c) the ~~masses~~ amounts of all of the proteins cover a range ~~of at least~~ that is detectable by a given detection assay.

2. (Original): The protein standard according to claim 1, wherein the polypeptides are from natural sources.

3. (Original): The protein standard according to claim 1, wherein the polypeptides are from recombinant sources.

4. (Original): The protein standard according to claim 1, wherein the polypeptides are from both natural and recombinant sources.

5. (Currently amended): The protein standard according to claim 1, wherein ~~the detecting~~ detection intensity of the detection assay is related to the polypeptide ~~mass~~ amount.

6. (Currently amended): A protein standard kit comprising a carrier means having in close confinement therein at least one container means wherein ~~the~~ first container means contains the protein standard according to claim 1.

7. (Currently amended): A method of using a protein standard to estimate the size and the ~~mass~~ amount of the polypeptide in a protein sample comprising:

(a) electrophoresing simultaneously in separate lanes on a gel the protein standard of claim 1 and the protein sample;

(b) detecting the polypeptides on the gel with a detection assay to obtain relative positions and relative detection intensities of the polypeptides;

(c) comparing the relative positions of polypeptides of said protein standard with the relative position of polypeptide in the protein sample to estimate its size; and

(d) comparing the relative detecting intensities of polypeptides of said protein standard with the relative detecting intensity of polypeptide in the protein sample to estimate its ~~mass~~ amount.

8. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 7, wherein ~~the detecting~~ detection intensity of the detection assay is related to the polypeptide ~~mass~~ amount.

9. (Original): The method according to claim 7, wherein the protein sample contains one or more polypeptides.

10. (Currently amended): A method of preparing a protein standard comprising:

(a) obtaining ~~a few~~ at least three polypeptides with known sizes;

(b) estimating the ~~mass~~ amount of each of the polypeptides with a detection assay; and

(c) combining the polypeptides ~~with different sizes and masses~~ such that each has different size from one another and different amount from one another.

11. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 10, wherein the ~~protein standard is produced such that the standard contains at least three polypeptides~~ detection assay is same as the detection assay according to claim7.

12. (Original): The method according to claim 10, wherein the polypeptides are from natural sources.

13. (Original): The method according to claim 10, wherein the polypeptides are from recombinant sources.

14. (Original): The method according to claim 10, wherein the polypeptides are from both natural and recombinant sources.

15. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 10, wherein the ~~range of their~~ sizes of the polypeptides in the protein standard is separable by a given polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis.

16. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 10, wherein the ~~range of their masses~~ amounts of the polypeptides in the protein standard is detectable by a given detection assay.

17. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 10, wherein the ~~mass~~ amount of each of the polypeptides is estimated by relative detection intensity of a protein assay.

18. (Currently amended): The ~~protein assay~~ method according to claim 17, wherein ~~the~~ detection intensity of the protein assay is related to the polypeptide ~~mass~~ amount.

19. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 10, wherein the ~~mass~~ amount of each of the polypeptides is estimated by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis followed by a detection assay.

20. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 19, wherein ~~the~~ detection intensity of the detection assay is related to the polypeptide ~~mass~~ amount.